

## **Merlot**

Born 1786 and listed as coming from “Africa”

Assistant gardener on board the *Naturaliste* in the service of André Michaux, who had bought him in the United States, where Merlot was a slave

Left the expedition at the Île de France (Mauritius) on 20 April 1801 and subsequently became the gardener of Zacavola, the king of the north-east coastal region of Madagascar, before being sold again as a slave following the killing of Zacavola in an uprising

Age on departure from Le Havre: 14

Date and place of death unknown

### *Further information:*

- Régis Pluchet, “En marge de l’expédition vers les Terres australes : un portrait du botaniste André Michaux”, in Michel Jangoux (éd.), *Portés par l’air du temps : les voyages du capitaine Baudin*, special number of *Études sur le XVIIIe siècle*, 38, 2010, pp. 205-211.